

REMARKS

Claims 5-10, 12, 14-20, 37-40, 44-47, 49-50, 52-54 and 58-73 remain pending in the present application. Claims 58, 62, 66 and 67 have been amended. Claims 71-73 are new. Basis for the amendments and new claims can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings originally filed. Applicant notes there was a difference between claims pending and claims allowed or rejected in the cover sheet of the Office Action.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 58-70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Tiedemann, Jr. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,926,470) (previously used to reject now canceled claims 1, 2, 11, 13, 21-23, 26-31, 34-36, 41-43, 48 and 55-57). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The present invention described in Claim 58 selects a handoff timeout value within a range of permissible values at the mobile station. The handoff timeout value is assigned at the mobile station. That is, the mobile station has a range of permissible values for a handoff timeout values to be selected from.

The cited art (U.S. Pat. No. 5,926,470 (Tiedemann, Jr.)) discloses four parameters for a soft handoff process. Each of these four parameters is stored in the remote unit. Each of these four parameters can be reprogrammed to a new value by a message sent from the base station. The four parameters include T_TDROP that specifies the duration of the triggered timer (column 16, lines 1-21).

T_TDROP described in the cited art is similar to the handoff timeout value defined in Claim 58. However, in the cited art, the remote unit merely rewrites T_TDROP to a new value that is sent from the base station. That is, the remote unit described in the cited art does not have a range of permissible values for a handoff timeout value. The cited art does not disclose, teach, or suggest the feature of the present invention defined in Claim 58.

Claim 63 of the present invention determines a handoff timeout value within a range of permissible values at the mobile station. That is, the mobile station defined in Claim 63 also has a range of permissible values for a handoff timeout value.

Claim 67 of the present invention selects a handoff timeout value for each pilot signal within a range of permissible values at the mobile station similar to Claim 58. The handoff timeout value is assigned for each pilot at the mobile station. That is, the mobile station defined in Claim 67 also has a range of permissible values for a handoff timeout value for each pilot signal.

As to Claims 63, 67, as described above, the cited art does not disclose a range of permissible values for a handoff timeout value.

Claim 69 of the present invention, the handoff timeout value is varied at the mobile station dynamically and autonomously.

The cited art discloses that T_TDROP is rewritten (varied) to a new value by a message sent from the base station (in the remote unit). However, this is not a dynamical change or an autonomous change of the T_TDROP. That is, the cited art does not vary the handoff timeout value dynamically and autonomously at the remote unit.

Thus, Applicant believes Claims 58, 63, 67 and 69 patentably distinguish over the art of record. Likewise, Claims 59-62, 64-66, 68 and 70, which ultimately depend from one of these independent claims, are also believed to patentably distinguish over the art of record. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 5-10, 12, 14-20, 37-40, 44-47, 49-50, 52-54 are allowed.

NEW CLAIMS

New Claims 71-73 are dependent claims which Applicant believes properly further limit Claims 58, 63 and 67, respectively.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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